

Remarks

The Final Office Action mailed December 15, 2004 has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendment has been made in consequence thereof.

Claims 1-17 and 21-25 are pending in this application. Claims 1-17 and 21-25 stand rejected.

The rejection of Claims 1-17 and 21-25 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,647,383 ("August") is respectfully traversed.

Applicants respectfully submit that August does not describe or suggest the claimed invention. As discussed below, at least one of the differences between August and the present invention is that August does not describe or suggest a method for displaying search results that includes inputting into a computer user data including at least one of an organization associated with the user, a function associated with the user, and a geographic location of the user, assigning the user to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community based on the user data, and displaying on the computer search results from at least one database corresponding to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community, wherein each search result has been previously assigned to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community.

More specifically, Applicants respectfully submit that August does not describe or suggest displaying on a computer search results from at least one database corresponding to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community, wherein each search result has been previously assigned to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community. Rather, August describes evaluating and manipulating the results of a search based on at least one of the interests and preferences of a user, and does not describe or teach displaying search results previously assigned to a business community and a sub-business community.

Moreover, Applicants respectfully submit that August does not describe or suggest displaying a subset of search results based on a user selection including at least one of a business community assigned to the user and a sub-business community assigned to the user, wherein the displayed subset of search results includes each search result from the performed search having been previously assigned to the corresponding user selection.

August describes a system and method for information searching. The method includes determining at least one of interests and preferences for a user conducting an information search, conducting the information search, evaluating the results of the search based on at least one of the interests and preferences, learning at least one of new interests and new preferences for the user based on the evaluation, and manipulating the results based on the evaluation. The manipulating of results includes determining if the search returned in excess of a predetermined large number of results, clustering the results into feature groups based on results of the determining, and summarizing the results into a display entity with dynamic attributes based on the manipulating.

Claim 1 recites a method for displaying search results using a computer coupled to a database that includes "inputting into the computer user data including at least one of an organization associated with the user, a function associated with the user, and a geographic location of the user...assigning the user to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community based on the user data...prompting the user to enter search terms into the computer for performing a search for information... displaying on the computer search results from at least one database corresponding to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community, each search result being previously assigned to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community...and displaying a subset of the search results based on a user selection including at least one of the business community assigned to the user and the sub-business community assigned to the user, the displayed subset of search results includes each search result from the performed search having been previously assigned to the corresponding user selection."

August neither describes nor suggests the method recited in Claim 1. More specifically, August neither describes nor suggests a method for displaying search results that includes inputting into a computer user data including at least one of an organization associated with the user, a function associated with the user, and a geographic location of the user, assigning the user to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community based on the user data, and *displaying on the computer search results from at least one database corresponding to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community, wherein each search result has been previously assigned to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community.* (Emphasis added.)

Moreover, August neither describes nor suggests displaying a subset of search results based on a user selection including at least one of a business community assigned to the user and a sub-business community assigned to the user, wherein the displayed subset of search results includes each search result from a performed search having been previously assigned to the corresponding user selection.

August describes a “Personality Profile Catalogue” that contains the interests and preferences, or profiles, of users and a “Source Characterization Database” having information relating to a user’s interests and preferences from various sources. However, August does not describe or suggest assigning a user to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community based on user data, and displaying search results from at least one database corresponding to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community, wherein each search result has been previously assigned to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community. Rather, August describes a system and method for information searching that includes determining at least one of interests and preferences for a user conducting an information search, conducting the information search, evaluating the results of the search based on at least one of the interests and preferences, learning at least one of new interests and new preferences for the user based on the evaluation, and manipulating the results based on the evaluation. Furthermore, August neither describes nor suggests displaying a subset

of search results based on a user selection including at least one of a business community assigned to the user and a sub-business community assigned to the user, wherein the displayed subset of search results includes each search result from the performed search having been previously assigned to the corresponding user selection. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 1 is patentable over August.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request that the 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) rejection of Claim 1 be withdrawn.

Claims 2-7 and 24 depend, directly or indirectly, from independent Claim 1. When the recitations of Claims 2-7 and 24 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that dependent Claims 2-7 and 24 likewise are patentable over August.

Claim 8 recites a computer comprising a user interface, and a processor, said computer coupled to a database, said processor programmed to “receive user data including at least one of an organization associated with the user, a function associated with the user, and a geographic location of the user...assign the user to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community based on the user data...prompt the user to enter search terms for performing a search for information... display on said user interface search results from at least one database coupled to the computer and corresponding to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community, each search result being previously assigned to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community...and display on said user interface a subset of the search results based on a user selection including at least one of the business community assigned to the user and the sub-business community assigned to the user, the displayed subset of search results includes each search result from the performed search having been previously assigned to the corresponding user selection.”

August neither describes nor suggests the computer recited in Claim 8. More specifically, August neither describes nor suggests a computer including a user interface, and a processor, wherein the processor is programmed to receive user data including at least one of an organization associated with the user, a function associated with the user, and a geographic location of the user, assign the user to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community based on the user data, and *display on the user interface search results from at least one database corresponding to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community, wherein each search result has been previously assigned to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community.* (Emphasis added).

Moreover, August neither describes nor suggests a processor programmed to display on a user interface a subset of the search results based on a user selection including at least one of a business community assigned to the user and a sub-business community assigned to the user, wherein the displayed subset of search results includes each search result from a performed search having been previously assigned to the corresponding user selection.

August describes a “Personality Profile Catalogue” that contains the interests and preferences, or profiles, of users and a “Source Characterization Database” having information relating to a user’s interests and preferences from various sources. However, August does not describe or suggest a processor programmed to assign a user to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community based on user data, and display search results from at least one database corresponding to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community, wherein each search result has been previously assigned to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community. Rather, August describes a system and method for information searching that includes determining at least one of interests and preferences for a user conducting an information search, conducting the information search, evaluating the results of the search based on at least one of the interests and preferences, learning at least one of new interests and new preferences for the user based on the evaluation, and manipulating the results based on the evaluation. Furthermore, August neither describes nor

suggests a processor programmed to display a subset of search results based on a user selection including at least one of a business community assigned to the user and a sub-business community assigned to the user, wherein the displayed subset of search results includes each search result from a performed search having been previously assigned to the corresponding user selection. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 8 is patentable over August.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request that the 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) rejection of Claim 8 be withdrawn.

Claims 9-17 and 25 depend, directly or indirectly, from independent Claim 8. When the recitations of Claims 9-17 and 25 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 8, Applicants respectfully submit that dependent Claims 9-17 and 25 likewise are patentable over August.

Claim 21 recites a computer program embodied on a computer readable medium for displaying search results on a user interface coupled to a computer, the program comprising a code segment that “receives user data including at least one of an organization associated with the user, a function associated with the user, and a geographic location of the user and then...assigns the user to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community based on the user data... displays on the user interface search results from at least one database coupled to the computer and corresponding to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community, each search result being previously assigned to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community...and displays on the user interface a subset of the search results based on a user selection including at least one of the business community assigned to the user and the sub-business community assigned to the user, the displayed subset of search results includes each search result from the performed search having been previously assigned to the corresponding user selection.”

August neither describes nor suggests the computer program recited in Claim 21. More specifically, August neither describes nor suggests a program including a code segment that receives user data including at least one of an organization associated with the user, a function associated with the user, and a geographic location of the user, assigns the user to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community based on the user data, and *displays on the user interface search results from at least one database corresponding to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community, wherein each search result has been previously assigned to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community.* (Emphasis added).

Moreover, August neither describes nor suggests a program including a code segment that displays on a user interface a subset of the search results based on a user selection including at least one of a business community assigned to the user and a sub-business community assigned to the user, wherein the displayed subset of search results includes each search result from a performed search having been previously assigned to the corresponding user selection.

August describes a “Personality Profile Catalogue” that contains the interests and preferences, or profiles, of users and a “Source Characterization Database” having information relating to a user’s interests and preferences from various sources. However, August does not describe or suggest a program including a code segment that assigns a user to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community based on the user data, and displays on a user interface search results from at least one database corresponding to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community, wherein each search result has been previously assigned to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community. Rather, August describes a system and method for information searching that includes determining at least one of interests and preferences for a user conducting an information search, conducting the information search, evaluating the results of the search based on at least one of the interests and preferences, learning at least one of new interests and new preferences for the user based on the evaluation, and manipulating the results based on the

evaluation. Furthermore, August neither describes nor suggests a program including a code segment that displays on a user interface a subset of the search results based on a user selection including at least one of a business community assigned to the user and a sub-business community assigned to the user, wherein the displayed subset of search results includes each search result from a performed search having been previously assigned to the corresponding user selection. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that new Claim 21 is patentable over August.

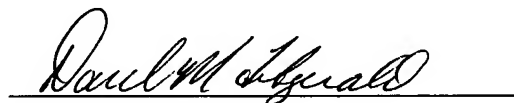
For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request that the 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) rejection of Claim 21 be withdrawn.

Claims 22 and 23 depend from independent Claim 21. When the recitations of Claims 22 and 23 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 21, Applicants respectfully submit that dependent Claims 22 and 23 likewise are patentable over August.

For at least the reasons given above, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection to Claims 1-17 and 21-25 be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all the claims now active in this application are believed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,



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